

Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



Air Power
Quote of the Week

"Oh, that I had wings like a dove, for then would I fly away, and be at rest."

—Psalms 55:6

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Feb. 8, 2002

Crash claims two Laughlin pilots

By Capt. Dawnita Parkinson
Public Affairs

More than 1,000 people attended a memorial service here Wednesday for 1st Lt. Chad Carlson and 2nd Lt. Nicholas Jabara, who were killed Jan. 31 when their T-37 crashed near the base's auxiliary airfield in Spofford.

The cause of the accident is under investigation by a board of Air Force officers.

Chad Carlson, an instructor pilot

from Lewisville, and Nicholas Jabara, a student pilot from Spokane, Wash., were both members of the 84th Flying Training Squadron.

Chad's funeral will be held at 2 p.m. today at Temple Baptist Church in Lewisville. He will be buried at the Bluebonnet Cemetery in Colleyville.

Chad was born Aug. 26, 1976, in Denton. He attended Texas Tech University in Lubbock, where he graduated Magna Cum Laude with a degree in Psychology in 1999. He was commissioned through ROTC

and entered active service in the U.S. Air Force in July 1999.

After graduating Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training from Laughlin Air Force Base in June 2001, Chad returned to Laughlin as a T-37 instructor pilot in November 2001. Chad's dream was to fly the F-15E and later the F-22.

Chad is survived by his wife, Azure; 2-year-old daughter, Ciara; parents, Larry and Carolyn; brother, Brett; and sister, Becky.

The Carlson family has

requested that anyone wishing to send flowers instead contribute to a trust fund set up for Azure and Ciara. To donate, simply send a check or money order to the Del Rio National Bank, 525 South Main, Del Rio, Texas, 78840. Write the check out to "Chad Carlson Trust Fund."

Nicholas' funeral will be held at 1 p.m. today at the U.S. Air Force Academy's Cadet Chapel. He will be buried at the Academy's cemetery.

See 'Crash,' page 6

'Patient, giving, selfless'



1st Lt. Carlson

Chad Carlson, an instructor pilot who died Jan. 31 in a T-37 crash in Spofford.

"He was probably the most patient, giving and selfless person," she said. "He would never do anything for himself. Everything he did revolved around somebody else."

Chad graduated from Laughlin Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training June 29, 2001. And according to his wife, this was a defining moment in his life.

"He absolutely loved flying," said Azure. "He pouted if he couldn't fly. He took it very seriously and was so proud to have gotten his wings. It was his biggest accomplishment."

Azure explained that Chad's love for flying paralleled his joy for teaching student pilots how to fly.

"At drop night, his first choice was an F-16,"

See 'Carlson,' page 6

**By Senior Airman
Bradley Pettit**
Editor

A loving husband and father with a fabulous smile and zest for flying and teaching.

That is how Azure Carlson said she will remember her husband, 1st Lt.

High Flight

*Oh, I have slipped
the surly bonds of earth
And danced the skies
on laughter-silvered wings;
Sunward I've climbed,
and joined the tumbling mirth
Of sun-split clouds — and
done a hundred things
You have not dreamed of —
wheeled and soared and swung
High in the sunlit silence.
Hov'ring there,
I've chased the shouting wind along,
and flung
My eager craft through
footless halls of air.
Up, up the long, delirious,
burning blue
I've topped the windswept heights
with easy grace
Where never lark, or even eagle flew.
And, while with silent,
lifting mind I've trod
The high untrespassed
sanctity of space
Put out my hand, and touched
the face of God.*

-- By John Gillespie Magee Jr.

'Friendly, proud officer'

**By Airman
Timothy J. Stein**
Staff writer

"I was just up... We were playing in the clouds."

Those were some of the last words spoken to Linda Jabara by her son, 2nd Lt. Nicholas Jabara, a student pilot who died

Jan. 31 in a T-37 crash in Spofford.

Nicholas was describing a flight he took the day before his death, said Linda.

By all accounts, flying was something Nicholas loved to do.

"That's what he wanted to do," said James Jabara, Nicholas' father. "That is why he went to the Air Force Academy. He said he was going to do this right, do this the best he could. He really wanted to make a go of it. He had all the tools."

Second Lt. Elliott Nelson, 84th Flying Training Squadron student pilot and friend of Nicholas since their days at the Academy, agrees with James.

"[Flying] was everything he ever hoped and dreamed," said Nelson. "He died doing what he wanted to do."

But Nicholas' dreams in life didn't just revolve



2nd Lt. Jabara

See 'Jabara,' page 6



Commanders' Corner

By Col. Rick Rosborg
47th Flying Training Wing Commander

Base mourns loss of two friends

The entire base suffered a tragic loss Jan. 31 when 1st Lt. Chad Carlson and 2nd Lt. Nicholas Jabara of the 84th Flying Training Squadron were tragically killed when their T-37 crashed near the base's auxiliary airfield in Spofford.

When such a tragedy occurs, many wheels are put into motion. Our immediate desires were to take care of Chad's and Nick's families and to gather as much information as possible for the safety and accident investigations that were to follow.

The wing responded brilliantly to both of these duties. Everyone

involved showed the utmost care and respect for the families and the utmost thoroughness and professionalism in gathering critical information. Absolutely everyone stepped up to the plate and made things happen with a traditional Team XL approach.

It was this kind of teamwork that resulted in Wednesday's first-class memorial ceremony. The ceremony was not only a touching tribute to these two outstanding officers – both so young in their lives and careers – but a true testament to the love and respect the base and local community feel for Chad and Nick. While it may have been a difficult hour for some, it was a

necessary step in the healing process.

Chad and Nick are irreplaceable. Their loss weighs heavily on the minds and hearts of every person at Laughlin, and their families will remain in our prayers for quite some time. However, this accident has reminded us that, while we have the world's best airplanes, maintenance crews and instructor pilots, aviation is inherently dangerous and is not risk-free.

As the 47th Flying Training Wing takes to the skies again, we must now refocus and continue our mission of training the world's best pilots. And I have every confidence in our ability to do just that.

Top Three Talk

By Chief Master Sgt. Stephen Enyeart
47th Flying Training Wing command chief master sergeant



Awards recognize stellar performers

We have just concluded another great recognition program year. The past year saw changes and improvements in the program, which have continually made it better. Our level of recognition to our outstanding members of the wing has risen with the year, and we will continue to raise the bar to make it better in every way we can.

Raising the bar includes the recognition by organizations on base, off base, military and civilian. These organizations help us highlight the importance we place on the performance of our people and our desire to recognize them for "above and beyond" effort.

The newest member of our recognition team is the Air Force Association. It joins a sharp group of supporters that have stretched out their

hands to say "well done" with a heartfelt "thank you" for making ours a better Air Force.

Our entire recognition program is designed to honor those of you who reach beyond yourselves to that higher plane of performance. You who give more because you know the Air Force is much more than a job; it is a family – a family taking care of each other and the mission.

Stellar performance is an integral part of so many of our great people, and that level of effort needs to be recognized. Every day each of us could point out someone on this base who has gone beyond the job or position description to complete a task or meet a mission need just because it needed to be done.

Occasionally we get so wrapped up in our duties and obligations we let ourselves down by not taking the

time in our overly busy lives to reach out and touch those excellent performers with the right recognition.

Occasionally the self-sacrificer, who believes someone else needs the recognition more, forgets that their fellow workers see only efforts and performance that go unrewarded.

Your fellow workers will never know if you turn down an award opportunity, but they will devalue the program because they see it as a failure in the system. Asking people if they want to be rewarded usually tells them you don't really want to do the paperwork and you are hoping they will say "no" so you don't have to.

Instead of asking, tell your troop you are going to because of the great work that person does. I have never met an award nominee or winner who

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Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, 298-5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.**

Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday.

Submissions can be e-mailed to:
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"Excellence – not our goal, but our standard."

– 47th FTW motto

FPCON Bravo

Laughlin is currently in Force Protection Condition Bravo. All people should remain vigilant and report suspicious activity to security forces at 298-5100.

Black History Month: why we celebrate

By Senior Airman Brad Pettit
Editor

Man has struggled with himself throughout recorded history. He has warred against his neighbor in the name of religion and economy. He has drawn his sword against the neck of his brother for water, food and land. These wars continue today, and amid this fighting another war is being fought on American soil. This war is for the recognition of all Americans.

Black History Month, celebrated throughout the month of February, is an observance that calls us to note the achievements and contributions made by African-Americans. These contributions are many. For example, Garrett Morgan invented the traffic light and gas mask. George Washington Carver revolutionized agriculture in the early 20th century. Dr. Charles

Drew developed the first blood banks. And rodeo fans may be interested in knowing that a Texan by the name of Bill Pickett invented steer wrestling. The list goes on and on, but the fact remains that many people today know nothing

about these or other great African-Americans. By observing Black History Month, we are fighting for the recognition of men and women who have played a major role in the advancement and growth of American civilization.

The first major battle in the war for the recognition of African-Americans began with Abraham Lincoln's signing of the Emancipation Proclamation. Following this, America plunged headlong into the Civil War – pitting brother against brother – with one side fighting to maintain slavery and the other warring to end it. Since these defining moments, the war has been raging for the recognition of African-Americans. Some names of recent fighters in the war are Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; Roy Wilkins; A. Philip Randolph; Rosa Parks; and Madam C.J. Walker. These men and women, and many more like them, fought against laws and

beliefs that attempted to prevent the advancement of black men and women in this country. These men and women fought hard on the frontlines of the war for the recognition of all Americans.

National religions and shared ancestry are the common bonds that tie many countries together. However, America does not have the benefit of these binding forces. Our languages are varied, our religions are different, and our cultures are like night and day. America, as a nation, is woven from the threads of almost every nationality, language and religion on earth. For this reason, our flag means so much to us. It is a unifying symbol that we can look at with pride and respect. Though the American flag is a beautiful representation of our freedom and individuality, it is only a symbol. To truly have a United States, we must first have united Americans.

“Although America does not share the common bonds other countries do, we can solidify and strengthen our nation by recognizing all nationalities that live within the confines of our borders.”

Although America does not share the common bonds other countries do, we can solidify and strengthen our nation by recognizing all nationalities that live within the confines of our borders. Black

History Month, along with all other ethnic observances, does just that. By learning about the cultures and great members of every race, we learn more about ourselves as Americans. By fighting in the war for recognition, we become better Americans, more in tune with our fellow brothers and sisters.

Black History Month is an important part of the war effort for recognition. Together, as a nation, we should all learn about and recognize other races. By doing this, we can only grow stronger and the war's end will draw closer. The end of the war is the goal. The end of the war means we have finally learned to live with one another, truly understanding the roles all people play in the American story. Let us continue to fight until the war is won.

Celebrate Black History Month!

This year's sponsors presented certificates for dinners, membership in exclusive clubs, free sports opportunities, education assistance and savings bonds. The sponsor lists includes the Air Force Association, Cripple Creek restaurant, Officer Spouses Club, our own Services, Blockbuster, AAFES, Balloon Time, Border Federal Credit Union, McDonalds, First Command, and the 47th Flying Training Wing Top 3.

'Awards,' from page 2

was ashamed. Every one of them was proud to have been recognized for what they did or are doing.

A last note: I have never seen someone promoted for having a piece of wood on the wall or statue on the table, but I have seen many promoted for the performance and achievements the award represents.

Actionline 298-5351

This column is one way to work through problems that haven't been solved through normal channels. By leaving your name and phone number, you are assured of a timely personal reply. If you give your name, we will make every attempt to ensure confidentiality when appropriate.



Rick Rosborg
Col. Rick Rosborg
47th FTW Commander

Del Rio mayor sends condolences to Laughlin

On behalf of the city of Del Rio, it is with sadness in our hearts that we send this letter of condolence to you and all the men and women of Laughlin Air Force Base on the tragic loss of the two officers who lost their lives in the T-37 crash Jan. 31.

There are never the right words to say at a time when tragedy strikes, but I want to personally extend our assistance and support to you and Laughlin Air Force Base. If there is anything we can do, please let us know. It is at a time like this that we as Americans should join hands and work together. We place our community resources at your disposal.

Once again, please accept our condolences at this time of tragic loss.

Sincerely,
Dora G. Alcala
Mayor, Del Rio

Airmanship

Intended to help all airmen articulate the Air Force's vision of aerospace power

What is decentralized control?

Decentralized execution is the practice of delegating the execution authority over tactical aerospace operations to subordinate tactical commanders. It means being able to execute aerospace operations from dispersed locations, allowing the execution of tactical operations to accommodate unforeseen circumstances, and allowing tactical commanders the flexibility to perform their missions without rigid direction from above.



Help save the world – Please recycle this newspaper



Aircraft maintainers earn recognition

By Pat Watson

*Laughlin Civil Service Aircraft Maintenance
Public Affairs representative*

Two aircraft maintainers from the 47th Operations Group Laughlin Civil Service Aircraft Maintenance recently earned Air Force medals.

Neal Mihelich, T-37 flight manager, and Jess Raley, T-37 production superintendent, received the Air Force Exemplary Civilian Service Award for their work performance in 2000 and 2001.

The award recognizes employees for outstanding service supporting a command mission for at least one year or a single act that significantly contributes to a command mission.

Mihelich and Raley were selected to lead aircraft maintenance of the T-37 flight in late 1999. Since then, the two helped safely generate 78,318 sorties and 102,665 trouble-free operating hours.

Because the T-37 aircraft is on the brink of replacement, many supply sources have cut back on making spare parts the jets need. This results in the necessity to make existing parts last longer and find more ways to locally fix or make what is no longer vended. Mihelich and Raley were able to find solutions and exceed Air Education and



Photo by Pat Watson

Jess Raley (left), Laughlin Civil Service Aircraft Maintenance T-37 production superintendent, and Neal Mihelich, LCSAM T-37 flight manager, inspect the T-37 flown by Col. George Doran, 47th Flying Training Wing Vice Commander.

Training Command logistics goals for mission-capable jets and flying scheduling effectiveness.

"We are all proud of Neal Mihelich and Jess Raley," said Bob Wood, LCSAM director. "What they have done with T-37 maintenance is an index of what we can expect as the transition to T-6 aircraft support begins in earnest this summer. We know they will continue to lead the way in super mission support."

Airman pleads guilty at court-martial

By Capt. Chad Diederich

*47th Flying Training Wing
deputy staff judge advocate*

A senior airman from the 47th Security Forces Squadron pleaded guilty to drug possession and distribution in a general court-martial here Jan. 28.

The senior airman was charged with one specification of using MDMA or Ecstasy; one specification of using Psilocyn, a controlled substance; one specification of distributing MDMA, also a controlled substance; one specification of distributing Psilocyn; and one specification of introducing approximately three quarters of a pound of Psilocyn mushrooms and 40 MDMA pills onto Laughlin Air Force Base.

A military judge found the senior airman guilty of all specifications after he entered a plea

of guilty. The military judge then sentenced him to a bad conduct discharge, 14 months' confinement and reduction to airman basic. As a result of the sentence, the senior airman will automatically forfeit all pay and benefits.

During the judge's guilty plea inquiry, the senior airman admitted to acquiring drugs while on leave in California and bringing them back to Laughlin. He used both Psilocyn mushrooms and MDMA in the enlisted dormitories here and distributed illegal drugs to three other airmen stationed at Laughlin. The senior airman then sent some Psilocyn mushrooms to an airman stationed at Lackland Air Force Base. The accused also sent illegal drugs to a civilian relative in Utah and a civilian friend in Ohio. The se-

nior airman's distribution, use and introduction of drugs onto a military installation were discovered after a tip was made to the Air Force Office of Special Investigations.

The senior airman stated that he was sorry for the crimes he committed and that he regretted ruining other airmen's careers and lives. The senior airman then said he knew he must be punished for his actions.

After the sentence was imposed, the senior airman was escorted to Wackenhut Confinement Facility in Del Rio to begin serving his confinement. He was transferred to Charleston naval brig to serve the remainder of his sentence. Unless the senior airman waives his right to appeal, his case will be reviewed by the Air Force Court of Criminal Appeals in Washington D.C.

Newsline

Holiday candles sold

The Enlisted Spouses Club will be selling candles for Valentine's Day from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. today through Thursday at the base exchange and from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Anderson Hall.

For details, call 298-1251 after 5 p.m.

Fashion show scheduled

The Officers' Spouses Club will host a fashion show at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 19 in the Club XL ballroom.

R.S.V.P. to Audi Lockhart at 298-7340.

Compost picked up

Compost pickup of small limbs, branches, bagged leaves and grass clippings is the first and third Monday of each month. If a holiday falls on that Monday, pickup will be the next duty day.

In order to enhance the appearance of the housing area, place the items curbside no earlier than the evening before pickup. Ensure all bags are secured prior to placement at curbside. You may also take these items to the compost facility, building 800.

For more information, call David Pugh at 298-5957.

Frequent flyer miles given

Federal employees traveling at government expense may retain benefits for personal use so long as the benefit does not incur any additional cost to the government. This includes frequent flyer miles, seat upgrades and access to carriers' VIP clubs.

For more information, call 2nd Lt. Cherie Griffin at 298-5635.

Split disbursement easy

The 47th Comptroller Flight can now split travel disbursements or payments between an individual's normal financial institution and his or her Government Travel Card account.

For more information on split disbursement, call the customer service desk at 298-5139 or 298-5215.

Conservation important

Base members are reminded to turn off all unnecessary lighting in the housing area during daytime hours to help Laughlin meet its 26-percent energy reduction goal.

Three make lieutenant colonel

Compiled from staff reports

Three Laughlin majors are among 1,712 tapped for promotion to lieutenant colonel.

The promotion boards convened at Randolph Air Force Base Nov. 5-21. The lieutenant

colonel's board considered 8,965 majors.

The Laughlin promotees are Maj. Roger Johnson, 47th Flying Training Wing; Maj. Frank Vanhorn, 86th Flying Training Squadron; Maj. Anthony Zarbano, 47th Communications Squadron.



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Staff Sgt. Jerry Dunn, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron optometry services NCOIC, adjusts the frames on Capt. Lisa Firestone, 47th ADS

flight surgeon, Tuesday at the aerospace physiology building. The frames will eventually be required for all aviators who need glasses.

Air Force phasing in new aircrew spectacles

By Dr. (Capt.) John Mileski
47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron optometry services chief

The Air Force has been implementing new black-framed aircrew spectacles for all aviators needing glasses since the summer of 2001.

Presently, aviators may wear these new frames, the original silver frames, or approved civilian frames during flight.

May 1 is the deadline for transitioning to the new spectacles. This date is not a firm one however, as inventory has not caught up with demand. The silver frame will still be authorized for flight until the new frame completely replaces it.

Once 100 percent deployed, the new frames will be the only approved frames for aircrew members while performing flying duties.

The new frames are necessary because the deteriorating quality of the old frames has become a flight safety concern. Operationally, the frames limit the pilots' field of vision, produce hot spots around the ears, and its adjustment screws are loosening. In fact, 51 percent of pilots reported spontaneously losing a lens; 24 percent of those during flight.

A comprehensive 1995 aircrew survey found that 83 percent of aircrews desired a new flight frame. The new frames meet

American National Standards Institute safety standards as a true safety frame. They hold the lenses more firmly and are more durable. The matte black finish reduces undesirable glint and reflections. The bayonet temples are replaced with either a conventional-style temple or the wire wrap-around cables.

The new frames have been ordered for all student pilot classes since Student Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 02-09 and for all instructor pilots who have had their flight physical since May 1, 2001.

However, due to the high initial demand and low inventory, the new frames may not have been in adequate supply, and the older, silver ones may have been substituted.

Anyone who received the old frames should stop by the optometry clinic to order the new frames.

Students in classes before 02-09 should also stop by the optometry clinic to order the new frames.

Instructor pilots with an annual flight physical due before May 1 should schedule an appointment with the optometry clinic a day or two before the flight physical.

Nonprescription sunglasses in the new frame will be obtained through the individual equipment issue unit.

For more information, call the optometry clinic at 298-6429.



Photo by Airman Timothy J. Stein

Plane of honor

A T-37 bearing the names of 1st Lt. Chad Carlson and 2nd Lt. Nicholas Jabara was displayed at the memorial service Wednesday in honor of the fallen officers.

'Jabara,' from page 1

around flying.

"He had different dreams," said Linda. "One of his dreams was to have a place, someplace where we could all go with our family and spend vacations together. He looked forward to having a life with all of us. He enjoyed making people happy."

He also enjoyed making friends. Linda said Nicholas had switched high schools when he was growing up but no one would have known he hadn't been going to the new school his whole life.

"He could make friends easily," she said. "People were drawn to him."

Nelson remembers Nicholas in much the same way.

"He was very outgoing," said Nelson. "[He was] friendly to everyone."

Nelson said that although

he couldn't pinpoint any one favorite memory of Nicholas, he couldn't think of any bad ones, either.

"We just had a lot of fun," said Nelson.

Linda said she will always remember the times they spent on family vacations and how happy he always was. The time he spent with the family is what Linda said she will miss the most.

She recalled how, on a family vacation to Europe last summer, Nicholas and younger brother Benjamin got what she thought were permanent tattoos just to rile her up. It worked, she said laughing, but much to her relief the tattoos wore off in two weeks.

For all his joking, she said Nicholas also had a serious side.

"He joked and laughed a lot, but he was very professional also," Linda said.

Whether it was in high

school or at the Academy, Nicholas always worked hard to make his dream of becoming a pilot come true, she said. He even started eating carrots every day in hopes it would improve his vision.

"[He was] a proud Air Force officer," said James. "He really was proud of his accomplishment at the Academy. We were all extremely proud of him. He took his profession very seriously."

Both parents said they would like people to remember their son as a man who only wanted the best for other people. James said he would also like people to remember his son as a proud Air Force officer.

"One of the most wonderful things is that in his short life, in the time we had, we did a lot," Linda said.

"We did a great deal as a family. It is nice to say I don't have any regrets."

'Crash,' from page 1

Nicholas was born Feb. 8, 1979, at Fort Collins, Colo. He is the son of retired Army Lt. Col. James and Linda Jabara and the grandson of the late Col. James Jabara, the first jet-versus-jet ace in the Korean War.

Nicholas majored in management

at the U.S. Air Force Academy and made the Dean's List for Academic Achievement and the Commandant's List for Military Performance while at the Academy. He was commissioned on May 30, 2001. In December 2001 Nicholas was assigned to Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training at Laughlin Air Force

Base. Nicholas was deeply committed to serving his country and becoming a fighter pilot.

Nicholas is survived by his parents; sister, Kathryn; and brother, Benjamin.

The Jabara family has requested that anyone wishing to send flowers instead contribute to

the newly established Nicholas Jabara Memorial Scholarship fund at Nicholas' high school. To donate, send a check or money order to Gonzaga Preparatory High School, 1224 East Euclid Avenue, Spokane, Wash., 99207. Write the check out to "Nicholas Jabara Memorial Scholarship."

'Carlson,' from page 1

she said. "But about two weeks down the line, he mentioned he was glad he got [first assignment instructor pilot]. He was looking forward to soloing out his first student and seeing the fruits of his efforts. He loved instructing."

Chad's friends also paint a picture of a caring and compassionate man who loved his job, his wife and 2-year-old daughter, Ciara.

"[Chad] always showed up to work with a smile on his face," said 1st Lt. Matt Gaines, 84th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot. "He was a great pilot and good friend. He was a great father who loved his family as much as anybody I knew. I went out to dinner with him and his family, and you could tell by the expression on his face that he loved his wife and daughter very much."

First Lt. Ron Schoch, 85th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, said he would remember Chad most for his laid-back personality.

"He was sincere," he said. "He was kind and always had a smile."

Azure said her husband loved where he was in life, but he had dreams of different places and planes.

"He loved it here at Laughlin," she said. "He loved the Tweet. He said it was a great plane. But his biggest dream was to fly the F-15E and eventually move on to the F-22. He told me that when we first met – that he wanted to fly fighter jets."

According to Azure, in addition to Chad's winning personality and love for people, was a deep love for Jesus Christ.

"He always wanted to help people, and everything he did, he did for the Lord. He lived his life for Christ, and he was proud of that. He led me to Christ, and I want people to know that."

When asked about her favorite memory of Chad, a smile widened across Azure's face.

"He loved watching [World Wrestling Federation]," she said. "He would sneak up behind me and put his arms around me, pinning both my wrists with one arm and trying to flip me with the other. He'd pin me to the floor and say, 'This is the submission hold.' He'd be laughing the whole time. That is probably my favorite memory, wrestling with him – whether I wanted to or not."

Azure said Chad's character and integrity were two of the reasons she loved him so much.

"He was the most wonderful man I ever met," she said. "He was perfect."

Chapel Schedule



Catholic

Saturday 5 p.m., Mass

Sunday ● 9:30 a.m., Mass
● 11 a.m., Little Rock Scripture
Study in Chapel Fellowship Hall

Thursday 6 p.m., Choir

Tuesday- ● 12:05 p.m., Mass

Friday ● 12:05 p.m. and 7 p.m., Holy Days
of Obligation

Reconciliation Before Sunday Mass, Wednesday
from 7 to 9 p.m. and by appointment

Religious Education/

Bible Study 11 a.m. and noon Sunday

Jewish Call Max Stool at 775-4519

Muslim Call Dr. Mostafa Salama at 768-9200

Nondenominational

Friday 7 p.m., Unity in Community Services

Protestant

Sunday 11 a.m., General worship

Wednesday ● 12:30-2:15 p.m., Women's
Bible study at chapel
● 7 p.m., Choir at chapel

**For more information on chapel
events and services, call
298-5111.**

The *XLer*



Photo by Senior Airman Bradley Pettit

Staff Sgt. Stephanie Hurley

47th Contracting Squadron contract specialist

Hometown: Iaeger, W.V.

Family: My fiancé,
James; two cats, Harriet
and Cindy

Time at Laughlin:

1 year, 2 months

Time in service:

5 years, 4 months

Name one way to

improve life at Laughlin:

Earlier aerobics classes

Greatest accomplishment:

Skydiving

Hobbies:

Bowling and shopping

Bad habit: Shopping

Favorite film:

Saving Silverman

Favorite musician:

Elton John

**If you could spend one
hour with any person,**

**who would it be and
why?** My nephew, Gabe.

I haven't seen him in al-
most a year, and he's
walking now.



Conducted from Jan. 22
to March 8

For all permanent-party
military and civil service
employees

Web-based survey to be
accessed at [http://
csafsurvey.af.mil](http://csafsurvey.af.mil)

Direct questions to the
Manpower Office at
298-5970 or 298-5736.



Base pilots do part to inspire 'at-risk' youth

By 1st Lt. Jemal Singleton

Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark.

To honor Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday, an all-minority team of Little Rock Air Force Base, Ark., and Laughlin members flew to McClellan Air Force Base, Calif., to set up static displays for more than 1,200 Sacramento-area students Jan. 23-25.

The crew made the visit to show "at-risk" children it is possible for people from backgrounds similar to theirs to achieve great things.

This marked the second year the event has taken place. This year's event included a T-37 static display from Laughlin.

Maj. Kirby Lewis, 96th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot, and Capt. Rico McGee, 84th Flying Training Squadron instructor pilot and commander for last year's trip, wanted to continue to be a part of the event after being reassigned from Little Rock to Laughlin.

"I still wanted to be a role model for the children no matter

what patch I wear and no matter what airplane I fly," said McGee. "I wanted the opportunity to show them that there are definite opportunities for minorities."

A beefed-up C-130 crew from Little Rock flew out in a 61st Airlift Squadron aircraft. In addition to the regular C-130 crew, the aircraft also carried an extra flight engineer, loadmaster and maintenance, intelligence, life-support and public affairs specialists. In all, the crew included nine members from Little Rock AFB.

Many of the students said they had never been on an airplane or even seen an African-American pilot in real life.

"I just think the overall experience opens

their eyes to something new," said 1st Lt. Phil Dillingham, a Little Rock AFB pilot and event coordinator.

The students learned about the mission and capabilities of the "Herc" and the "Tweet" and heard messages from the military visitors about the importance of staying in school and furthering their education.

"I felt like we were a positive influence in the children's lives, and anything I can do to help lead children in the right direction, I'm all game," said Senior Airman Tavarus Hune from the Little Rock AFB 61st AS intelligence squadron.

Hune had the students recite a chant as they left his station: "I believe in myself and

in my dreams that I am a positive 'I can' person. I stand tall, I walk tall and I talk tall, and if in my heart I can believe it, then in my mind I know I can achieve it."

"We increase the chance of [their] doing something positive when we go out there, put it right on the table, and say this is what you can do," said Dillingham.

He said he would like to see the event expand.

"Next year we want to try and go for more aircraft so that we can accommodate more students," said Dillingham. "I'd like to push the goal up to 1,500 to 2,000 students, and I'd like to get a fighter for next year so we can not only show the training side and the cargo side, but also the fighter side of the Air Force. I think that would be pretty impressive for the kids to see."

The looks on the children's faces and their comments prove they were impressed with this year's trip.

"I know what I'm going to do now," said one student as she left the flight deck.

"I still wanted to be a role model for the children no matter what patch I wear and no matter what airplane I fly. I wanted the opportunity to show them that there are definite opportunities for minorities."

-- Capt. Rico McGee
84th Flying Training
Squadron instructor pilot

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Date of Graduation:

Aug. 4, 1995

**Aircraft you flew and
base you were sta-
tioned before**

Laughlin? KC-135,
Fairchild Air Force
Base, Wash.

Mission of your primary aircraft? Air refueling

**What is the most important thing you learned at
pilot training besides learning to fly?** Everybody
makes mistakes. Focus on doing the best you can at
the time, and don't dwell on the past.

What advice would you give SUPT students at

Laughlin? Concentrate on the basics; they never
lose their importance.



Kraby



Sportslines

Bowling games scheduled

A game of Scotch Doubles is scheduled for 6 p.m. Saturday at Cactus Bowling Lanes.

Male/female teams will be organized. Females will bowl the first ball, and males will try to pick up the spare.

Prizes will be awarded to the top two or three teams.

A King of the Hill game will be played at 6 p.m. Feb. 23 at Cactus Bowling Lanes.

Males and females will compete for "top bowler." Prizes will be awarded in each category.

For more information, call Staff Sgt. Antonio Gomez at 298-5267.

Muscle mania competition set

The XL Fitness Center is seeking volunteers for the Muscle Mania Bench Press Competition scheduled for Feb. 27 at the fitness center.

Volunteers are needed to be judges, referees and spotters.

If you are interested in being a volunteer for this event, call Staff Sgt. Timothy Coffey at 298-5251.

Dental sealants provide protection

By Dr. (Capt.)
Steven Ledwig

47th Aeromedical Dental
Squadron preventive dentistry
officer

Bacteria causes tooth decay. It is found in sticky, colorless film called plaque.

Four elements are needed to cause tooth decay and they are plaque, food containing sugars and starches, a susceptible tooth, and time.

Plaque bacteria produce acids that can dissolve tooth enamel when foods containing sugars and starches are eaten. The sticky plaque holds these acids on the teeth where they attack the enamel. The enamel may break down after repeated attacks, thus forming a cavity.

To prevent tooth decay, daily brushing and flossing must be done to remove harmful plaque from your

children's teeth. It is recommended that children should brush their teeth twice a day with a pea-sized amount of fluoride toothpaste.

Flossing helps to remove plaque that hides between the teeth and under the gum line, areas where a toothbrush cannot reach. Supervising your child's brushing is important, especially at an early age to make sure they are doing a proper job and not harming themselves.

Dental sealants can help prevent or reduce tooth decay. A sealant is a plastic material that is applied to the chewing surface of teeth where most decay occurs. By protecting these decay-prone areas, a sealant acts as a barrier to plaque. Sealants penetrate the pits and fissures of the tooth enamel and, though sometimes they can be seen with the naked

eye, the protective nature of them is very beneficial for the teeth and the patient.

Sealants are placed routinely in children and adults and can last several years before another application is needed. Sealants are checked during your child's regular dental visits to determine if reapplication is necessary.

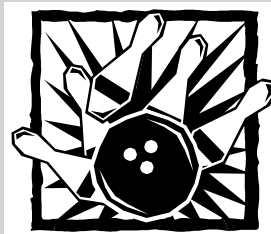
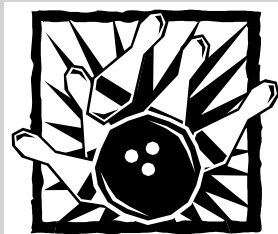
Dentists recommend a total prevention program for long-lasting, healthy smiles. This means regular dental visits, the use of fluoride toothpaste, daily brushing and flossing and sealants, if appropriate.

If these measures are followed and sealants are applied to the child's teeth, the risk of decay can be reduced and possibly even eliminated.

For more information on dental sealants, call the dental clinic at 298-6331.

Bowling standings

<u>Team</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Points</u>
Boeing	94-42	Services	70-66
OSS	81-55	CE	62-74
47th FTW	74-62	SFS	49-87
DeCA	70-66	Commtracting	44-92



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field hours
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9 a.m. to
5 p.m.

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only. Use of
the paintball
field is
authorized
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these hours.

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information,
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298-5830.